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APRIL 19.

J. CHESTON MORRIS, M. D., in the Chair.

Forty-seven persons present.

The Publication Committee reported the reception of papers under the following titles:

"*Stauroneis terryi* D. B. Ward," by T. Chalkley Palmer (April 11, 1910).

"A revision of the North American Species of the Genus *Ischnoptera* (Orthoptera)," by James A. G. Rehn and Morgan Hebard (April 12, 1910).

"A new Diatom," by T. Chalkley Palmer (April 19, 1910).

Under the auspices of the Biological and Microscopical Section the following communications were made:

*Jelly-pores in the Diatomaceæ*.—MR. CHARLES S. BOYER discussed the observations of Otto Müller, George Karsten and others upon the occurrence and function of the *jelly pore* in the Diatomaceæ and described it as found in certain species not heretofore recorded. As has been stated, the production of a stipe or jelly cushion appears to be its function. A more minute study of the habitat in various motile and immotile species is requisite. The speaker dwelt upon the varying conditions in earlier and later cell growth, of the tube and thallus forming jelly, and of the relation between the raphé and the pore. Suggestions were made as to the relation between the forms producing the stipes and jelly cushions and those in which the protective devices of many pelagic species were found to be siliceous. Drawings, original, and from various authors, illustrated the remarks.

DR. THOMAS S. STEWART, on the Hook-worm, *Ankylostoma duodenale*. (No abstract.)

*Unusual Forms of Myxomycetes*.—MR. HUGO BILGRAM remarked that in the early stages of their existence Myxomycetes are composed of a slimy mass consisting of cells resembling amœbæ, and only in the last hours of their life do they assume the apparently organized form of the well-known beautiful sporangia.

The most simple species consist of a mass of spores enclosed in a sporangium wall. Others develop within the sporangium a capillitium often consisting of branching filaments, and in some genera, of isolated fibres. In many genera the capillitium bears characteristic markings, such as spines, warts or spiral ribs. In the process of maturation

many species develop within the yet soft sporangium a stipe on which they creep up, so that the matured sporangium is stipitate, and when the stipe has a continuation within the sporangium, this is known as a columella.

The different species have more or less constant characters. Many are never found stipitate. Among the stipitate forms it often happens that a few of the sporangia of a gathering are sessile, especially sporangia maturing on the outside of the group.

Two rather extraordinary gatherings were shown under microscopes. The one was *Physarum pulcherrimum*, which is usually stipitate, sessile sporangia being rarely seen; but in the specimens shown all sporangia were sessile. The other exhibit was a specimen of *Perichæna chrysospora*. Not a single species of this genera is known to be stipitate, but in the gathering exhibited a number of the sporangia had a well-developed stipe, while others were normal and therefore sessile.

MR. SILAS SHUMO, on the microscopic characters of the stems of Equisetum. (No abstract.)

MR. FRANK J. KEELEY, on micrometry. (No abstract.)

MR T. CHALKLEY PALMER, on *Navicula sociatis*, a new diatom. (See papers.)

MR. WILLIAM B. DAVIS, on fresh-water polyzoa. (No abstract.)

MR. H. VAN SICKEL, on a new crystallization of platinum. (No abstract.)

The communications were illustrated by preparations under the microscopes.

Mr. John B. Henderson was elected a member.

The following were ordered to be printed: